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STATE OF IOWA

Iowa Library Quarterly

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State Library Board

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A Library Must Continue to Grow

If a library "is rooted in its community and strives to meet the true needs of that community, and if it conceives of its role as that of meeting the expanding needs of the human beings who constitute the community, then it is a democratic institution."

This statement by Dr. Eduard C. Lindeman clearly implies that as social needs expand libraries must expand. And since social progress has no terminal point there likewise can be no end to the growth of a library which is following its best purposes.

—79th annual report of the Detroit Library Commission—1943-44

A. L. A. LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Iowa Exceeds Her Quota!

Iowa's response to the A.L.A. appeal for funds was splendid—$1,870.25! A great deal of credit goes to Miss Smith, of the State Traveling Library, who generously gave the time of her staff in preparing the letters and lists for mailing and who sent them out with other library material.

But now—the American Library Association can only help us to help ourselves. Here are figures sent by the State Traveling Library to A.L.A. Headquarters in reply to a questionnaire:

How many people in the state live in areas served by free public libraries?	1,395,034
(No evaluation of the quality of the service.)	
How many people live in areas still without public library service?	1,143,234
Urban people without public library service	3,143
Rural people without public library service	1,140,091
Towns of less than 2,500 population	188,533
Country outside incorporated towns	951,558

What are we going to do about this? To be good citizens of our own communities is not enough. We need to read in order to discuss and evaluate state and national and international affairs. And the opportunity to read should be available to every resident of Iowa. Freedom of speech can be harmful if it is not based on knowledge.

Ours is the responsibility for equalizing the opportunities for library service through the securing of the right kind of county library law. Alabama has eighteen county libraries (one regional library); Arkansas 36 (two regional libraries); Georgia 48 (seven regional libararies); Michigan 21; Minnesota 15; North Carolina 83 (five regional libraries). The list is too long to give in full. What other states can offer in the way of rural library service, we can, can't we?

Winnifred Wennerstrum,
State Director

Ruth Hollingshead (Mrs. A. E.),
State Chairman for Trustees
Lydia Margaret Barrette,
President, Iowa Library Association
La Nor H. Turner (Mrs. F. A.),
President, Trustees Section, Iowa Library Association

Let's Finish the Campaign

(Advance Copy from July A. L. A. Bulletin)

More states have gone over the top—Arkansas, Iowa, North Dakota and Utah, and the territory of Puerto Rico, as well as Louisiana and Washington which were noted in the June Bulletin. Georgia, Michigan, Oregon and Vermont are approaching their goal.

*Several states were delayed in initiating the campaign, and figures from them are still very incomplete. In others, the drive is moving toward a close. Because of this uneven schedule, present figures are still not indicative of final results.

The total pledged or collected in the library field up to June 19 is $50,481. Early returns from the book trade and supply houses amount to $7,820. Both figures are, however, obviously incomplete.

Appreciation is due to many people, for example the state directors who contributed enthusiasm, hard work and ingenuity; to local and district directors who worked intensively in their own area; to the state library agencies that mailed out campaign literature with their own material, or gave space generously in their bulletins; to individuals who paid for special state letterheads; and to all those who contributed to an investment for the future.

A serviceman writes: "Here's to four years of activity. I wish you lots of luck in this necessary undertaking. Enclosed is check for five dollars." A branch librarian sends a check with the comment, "This small and tardy but hard-earned remittance is sent with the hope that it may be sent with prudence and probity far out of proportion to its

size. Then we can all hope for final results for the professional field to be somehow proportionate to its needs." The New York Library Association appropriates five hundred dollars. The North Carolina Negro Library Association sends contributions amounting to over five hundred dollars. A college librarian pledges $25 with the comment, "I am enthusiastic over the idea of a Washington representative and the plan to make available surplus property material." One director secured $100 each from the newspaper editor, the banker, and a department store, and $5 from the Governor.

The need of an A.L.A. representative in Washington, and of a supporting program of publicity, is becoming greater. More and more matters of concern to libraries are coming up, as the recent proposal to increase book post rates, which made it urgent that the A.L.A. present the effect on libraries to the House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. Document distribution is a hardy perennial. Bills for extension of social security are pending. Are librarians to be included or excluded? Surplus property regulations can be favorable or unfavorable to libraries. It is important that officials take library needs into account.

President Vitz and the Campaign Committee therefore urge the campaign workers, the members of the A.L.A., trustees and friends of libraries, to finish the job they have begun, in some states, perhaps next fall, and bring the campaign to a successful conclusion.

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*A number of states were divided into districts, with district directors. The returns from these states are slower in coming in.

BUSY BOOKS

If books could speak their minds, some of them might boast of overwork these days. The solid fellows, used to seeing their lighter neighbors do the gadding, have been trotting back and forth from shelf to reader at best-seller paces.

It's a safe bet that they are proud of their recognition as the books people can't do without, even in wartime.

Reading was serious business in the Library last year. Serious and practical. The kind of reading men do when they have to get answers. The kind of reading men can't stand up without. Never before, in our time, has the value of large and well organized collections of books been so clearly demonstrated.

Not everybody who came to the Library and its branches in 1944 had a problem whose solution was vital to himself or to the world. But who can deny the importance to an individual of a date or a place name, if those are what he wants, or the necessity for the kind of mental and spiritual rest which can be found through books?

No matter how willing, no one can fight all the time either on the battle front or at home. Wherever we are, whatever we do, the war if the great underlying force which determines the shape of our daily lives, but within that larger pattern many of the details of human relations and human curiosity remain with little change.

We still want to know about the lives of men and women we know or have heard about, and the war has broadened our interest to include whole peoples who once were complete strangers. Not long ago, "knowing what it's all about" meant being a big frog in a little puddle. That puddle has suddenly spread to include the seven seas, and we know now that what happens in Asia may have more effect on our lives than a fire next door.

And that's where the busy books come in.

A lot of our friends and relatives are learning about Europe and Asia at first hand. Learning the hard, never-to-be-forgotten lessons of greed and politics let loose. It has taken a war to teach those lessons. It has taken five years of war to

teach some people that the answers were ready before the war began.

Some answers to the next war are ready, too. Will we take the trouble to learn them?

The busy books are helping, in this Library and in libraries in many lands. That is how it happens that the solid books, the books that can teach the beginnings of understanding, are being read more intensively by more people day after day. If we can remember the lessons of this war, taught in sacrifice and ruin and blood, if we can remember that "knowing what it's all about" in a small circle surrounded by indifference is just not bright, if we will learn to think and to demand thought from our leaders, if we believe it's worth the effort, we can go far toward blocking another war.

The problems are tremendous but some of the answers are being found as people grow in understanding.

The Library is proud of its record as an active force in the prosecution of this war. Its books and services have been, and still are, kept busy by military, economic, and diplomatic government agencies. It is proud, too, of its vast resources for the study of world affairs and the problems of peace. Thousands of you have been using them, thousands more will, and in that use here and in other libraries lies one of the great hopes for the future. Keep the books busy!

—**The New York Public Library in 1944**

MAGAZINES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

By Helen Reynolds
Children's Librarian, Detroit Public Library

The output of children's magazines has increased rapidly in the last few years. Now we find magazines for children in all sizes and shapes, some with attractive covers carefully planned by the illustrators to please the young readers some with good photographic illustrations on the covers, and a large and motley group with quite lurid and garish exteriors. To delve into the contents is even more bewildering. Parents, uncles, and aunts feel that the days of **St. Nicholas** and **Youth's Companion** are far away.

If you have ever seen some of this appalling array together, then after the first feeling of dismay, comes the definite reaction that, if all these magazines are actually published for children, there certainly must be a profitable market for them. Children's magazines are now being published in quantities, just as books for children have been for some years. The only thing to do is to sort out and select the best, appraise it and find out just exactly what there is in this field.

There are some problems in the publishing of magazines for children that are distinctly different from those in publishing adult magazines. The period that each subscriber maintains his subscription to a periodical is determined by his interest. In the case of adult periodicals, this interest may continue for an indefinite time; with boys and girls there is a natural growth and development so that the magazine which is enjoyed today is outgrown tomorrow. Except in families where there are several children of different ages, the subscription period is probably not more than three or four years. Therefore, though a children's magazine may have many new subscribers each year, the circulation does not increase since just as many old subscribers, having outgrown the publication, drop their subscriptions. To keep circulation figures from declining, there must be continual probing of new fields for new subscribers.

Advertising is a very important factor. It contributes material of interest and helps considerably with the financial problem. The field is naturally limited in the juvenile publication so other sources of revenue have to be found.

These factors are handicaps to an editorial staff and must necessarily influence them in some of their

ventures. Fortunately there are some children's magazines which are associated with organizational interests. They profit accordingly and through this security gain permanent existence. Several worthwhile periodicals have been forced to discontinue publication after only a few issues. One, for example, was an especially delightful little magazine of music and composers.

With sincere regret, it has to be admitted that the comic type of magazine for children flourishes and has a tremendous sale. To cope with this, and as a possible antidote, the **Parents' Magazine** publishes a group of comics. Only time can tell whether these safe comics will attract the attention of young readers enough to divert them from their first friends in the comic field. The discussion of the comic magazine question can be a complete subject in itself.

Among other childrens periodicals, there are some which are delightful and are filled with good entertainment for the young person of today who waits just as eagerly for the new number now as did the boys and girls in past years.

For the youngest member in the household, there is **Jack and Jill** which is in its sixth year of publication. It always has an attractive cover, a serial running for about three issues, single issue stories, one of which is humorous, two or three picture scripts, a page of things to do, a crossword puzzle, and other features; an entertaining array for boys or girls, six to ten years of age.

Other general magazines built around the interests of special age groups are **Child Life, Story Parade, American Girl,** and **Boys' Life. Child Life** is in its twenty-third year and has always had very good serial stories. It has movie news, fashions, book reviews, handicraft, paper dolls, cooking, timely subjects such as Victory Gardens, and is suitable for children from eight to twelve. **Story Parade** also touches this age group. It is a newer magazine and generally has a serial running about four issues, single stories, poems, nature stories, puzzles, and some short historical tales. It now has more colorful covers than in the past and children love color.

American Girl and **Boy's Life** are for the next older group. Of these two, **Boys' Life** is the older publication with thirty-four years of success to the credit of its publishers, the Boy Scouts of America. **American Girl** is now in its twenty-seventh year under the sponsorship of the Girl Scouts. They have both developed mature policies during these years and have benefited girls and boys outside of the Scout organizations as well as troop members.

There are several magazine devoted to the special subject interests of boys and girls. **Model Airplane News** appeals to those who are interested in aviation and model airplanes. **Flying** covers the aviation interests of the older group with material on various aircraft topics, including information about the more recent war equipment. The illustrations are especially worthy of praise. **Aero Digest** uses a great deal of material dealing with aeronautics and is for the use of older boys and girls. This is such a pertinent subject that all three of these magazines are of value to boys and girls now.

Scientific American, although not a children's magazine, is suited to the more thoughtful and thorough type of young reader. It has much to offer them in modern science, chemistry, plastics, and engineering. Having been founded in 1845, it is nearing its one-hundredth birthday.

Junior Scholastic and **Senior Scholastic** are both good magazines to keep boys and girls aware of current events. They are filled with information about our country, its peoples and affairs, and its relations with other countries. They are truly American magazines built to give the readers a good foundation of knowledge of American life. Though not spectacular in appearance, the

contents are especially good.

Nature Magazine, with its excellent pictures, stories, and true accounts of our wild life and resources, should be available to boys and girls.

National Geographic Magazine, though an adult periodical, has been taken over by young people and is really very important to them now. They want to know more about this world, especially the part where a father, brother, or uncle may be stationed while serving his country. Boys and girls are rapidly becoming conscious of a global world.

Plays, the drama magazine for young people, has in each issue three different groups of plays: (1) For Junior High and Older Groups, (2) For Intermediates, (3) For Primary Grades. Each division has in it three plays, some for the special holiday or event of the month. Many of these plays are well written, making this magazine a very useful source of material.

No article about children's magazines is complete without special mention of **The Horn Book.** No library should be without this gold mine of information about children's books and reading. It celebrated its twentieth birthday last year. In the July-August, 1944, issue there is a fine article on children's magazines. Because there is a limit to time and space, other periodicals of good quality have not been mentioned here. Those included have been read by countless children and have given them both pleasure and knowledge.

—The Michigan Librarian, March, 1945.

ADDRESSES AND PRICES OF MAGAZINES MENTIONED IN ABOVE ARTICLE

Aero Digest—515 Madison Ave., New New York 22, N. Y. $3.00
American Girl—Girl Scouts, Inc., 155 E. 44th St., New York 17, N. Y. 2.00
Boy's Life—Boy Scouts of America, 2 Park Ave., New York 16, N. Y. 2.00
Child Life—729 Boylston Street, Boston 15, Mass. 3.00
Flying—540 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 4.00
Horn Book — 264 Boylston Street, Boston 16, Mass. 2.50
Jack and Jill—Curtis Publishing Co., Independence Square, Philadelphia, 5, Pa. 2.50
Junior Scholastic (also Senior Scholastic) — Scholastic Corporation, 220 E. 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y. ... 2.00
Model Airplane News — Air Age, 551 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. 2.00
National Geographic Magazine — 1146 16th St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. ... 4.00
Nature Magazine — American Nature Assn., 1214 - 16th St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. 3.00
Plays — 8 Arlington Street, Boston 16, Mass. 3.00
Scientific American—Munn & Co., 24 W. 40th St., New York 18, N. Y. 4.00
Story Parade—1 Madison Ave., New York 11, N. Y. 2.00

LOOKING AHEAD

Dear Friends of Iowa Libraries,

The Iowa Library Association has long observed the inequalities of library service in the state, which leaves practically 50% of the population without library service and many more served by too small units to make for efficient and well rounded service.

Four years ago the General Assembly considered a bill which would have enlarged the work of the State Traveling Library so that district library service might have developed among groups of counties. This was well supported by many rural people. However criticism of the legislators seemed to indicate that they would prefer to see rural library service start at the "grass roots" rather than imposed from the State Traveling Library.

With this criticism in mind the Iowa Library Association sponsored SF382 and HF291. This bill paralleled almost exactly Sections 5849-5866 of the Iowa Code, which have allowed residents of cities and towns to organize library service for their citizens for over 40 years. It was an enabling act only in our judgment and contained no controversial features. SF382 with slight amendment passed the Senate without a dissenting vote. It was not voted out of the House sifting committee.

Since this bill concerned practically every county in Iowa, we are enlisting your aid in revising it for

sponsoring in the 1947 session of the legislature.

1. Would the provision of the 1945 bill have interested the rural people in your community in establishing library service for themselves?
2. Would you advise using it as the basis of 1947 legislation?
3. What changes would you suggest?
   a. For the 1945 bill?
   b. For an entirely new bill?
4. Should we add to the first paragraph "and outside towns of ———— population" making it read: "An act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries in counties for the use of those persons living in the area of the county outside of cities and towns which maintain free public libraries and outside towns of ———— population." Thus all towns above the minimum population could levy 2 mills rather than the 1 mill under the county law and more nearly contribute their share of the cost of maintenance. What should that minimum population be?
5. If counties wished to contract with existing libraries and visa versa, should a new library board be formed that would give some representation to all parts of the county served by the library service? Under present library laws in Iowa no rural person can serve on any library board.

We hope that you can find some time to give this some thought within the next few weeks. If you wish a summary of the replies we will see that you receive one. The Iowa Library Quarterly for 1940, winter issue, contains a summary of the present laws.

Thank you for your cooperation past and present. We feel if the need of this legislation is discussed widely within the next two years there will be very little trouble in getting the 1947 legislature to do something about it.

Don Berry
Lucile Stull
Letha Davidson
Helen Rex,
Legislation Committee, I.L.A.,
Marshalltown, Iowa

June 15, 1945

House File 291
By COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC LIBRARIES

February 13, 1945
Passed on File.

A BILL FOR

An Act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries in counties for the use of those persons living in the area of the counties outside of cities and towns which maintain free public libraries.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Counties may provide for the formation and maintenance of free public libraries open to the use of all inhabitants of the county living outside of the city or town maintaining a free public library, under proper regulations, and may purchase, erect, or rent buildings or rooms suitable for this purpose and provide for the compensation of necessary employees.

Sec. 2. A county library as contemplated by this chapter may be established by the board of supervisors on its own motion, or if a majority of the legal electors, of that part of a county where a tax would be levied to support such library, vote in favor of a proposal to establish such library, then it shall be established by the board of supervisors.

Upon the filing with the board of supervisors of a petition requesting the submission of such question, signed by five percent of the legal electors voting at the last general election in that part of the county where such tax would be levied, then the board shall submit such question at the first general election following the filing of said petition, provided said election occurs not less than forty days after the filing of said petition.

Sec. 3. Said counties may receive, hold and dispose of all gifts, donations, devises, and bequests that may be made to them for the purpose of establishing, increasing, or improving any library service; and when the conditions thereof have been accepted by the county, their performance may be enforced by the library board by the action or mandamus against the board of supervisors or by other proper action. The county library board may apply the profits accruing therefrom to best promote the prosperity and utility of the library.

Sec. 4. In any county in which a free library has been established, there shall be a board of library trustees, consisting of five members, to be appointed by the board of supervisors.

Sec. 5. Of said trustees so appointed, one shall hold office for two years, two for four years and two for six years, from the first day of July following their appointment in each case, and at their first meeting they shall cast lots for their respective terms, reporting the result of such lot to the board of supervisors. All subsequent appointments shall be for terms of six years each, except to fill vacancies.

Sec. 6. Bona fide citizens and residents of the county living outside a cietv or town maintaining a free public library, male or female, over the age of twenty-one years, are alone eligible to membership.

Sec. 7. Vacancies in the board shall be filled by appointment by the board of supervisors, such appointees to fill out the unexpired term for which the appointment is made.

Sec. 8. The removal of any trustee permanently from the county, or his absence from six consecutive regular meetings of the board, except in case of sickness or temporary absence from the county, without due explanation of absence, shall render his office as trustee vacant.

Sec. 9. Members of said board shall receive no compensation for their services.

Sec. 10. Said board of library trustees shall have and exercise the following powers:

1. To meet and organize by the election of one of their number as president of the board, and by the election of a secretary and such other officers as the board may deem necessary.

2. To have charge, control, and supervision of the public library, its appurtenances and fixtures, and rooms containing the same, directing and controlling all the affairs of such library.

3. To employ a librarian, such assistants and employees as may be necessary for the proper management of said library, and fix their compensation; but, prior to such employment, the compensation of such librarian, assistants, and employees shall be fixed for the term of employment by a majority of the members of said board voting in favor thereof.

4. To remove such librarian, assistants, or employees by a vote of two-thirds of such board for misdemeanor, incompetence, or inattention to the duties of such employment.

5. To authorize the use of such libraries by nonresidents of the area which is taxed to support such libraries and to fix charges therefor.

6. To make and adopt, amend, modify, or repeal bylaws, rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, for the care, use, government, and management of such library and the business of said board, fixing and enforcing penalties for the violation thereof.

7. To have exclusive control of the expenditures of all taxes levied for library purposes as provided by law, and of the expenditures of all moneys available by gift or otherwise for the erection of library buildings, and of all other moneys belonging to the library fund, including fines and rentals collected under the rules of the board of trustees.

Said board shall keep a record of its proceedings.

Sec. 11. Contracts may be made between the board of trustees of any county library and any school corporation, the trustees of any city or town library, or the trustees of any other county library for its use by their respective residents.

Sec. 12. Such use shall be accomplished by one or more of the following methods in whole or in part:

1. By lending the books of such library to such residents on the same terms and conditions as to residents of the county in which said library is situated.

2. By the establishment of depositories of books of such library to be loaned to such residents at stated times and places.

3. By the transportation of books of such library by conveyances for lending the same to such residents at stated times and places.

4. By the establishment of branch libraries for lending books to such residents.

Sec. 13. The board of supervisors shall levy annually on the taxable property of the county outside of any city or town that maintains a free public library a tax of not more than one mill for the establishment and maintenance of such county library.

Sec. 14. All moneys received and set apart for the maintenance of such library shall be deposited in the treasury of such county to the credit of the library fund, and shall be kept by the treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, and paid out upon the orders of the board of trustees, signed by its president and secretary.

Sec. 15. The board of trustees shall, immediately after the close of each fiscal year, make to the board of supervisors and the librarian of the state traveling library a report containing a statement of the condition of the library, the number of books added thereto, the number circulated, and the amount of money expended in the maintenance thereof during such year, together with such further information as it may deem important.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 291

This bill would provide free library service to those persons living in the county outside of a city or town on the same basis as is enjoyed by urban dwellers.

POSTWAR LIBRARY BUILDING

There are hundreds of public libraries which would benefit by a quiet Sunday night earthquake — selective, of course. If one thousand assorted old library buildings could be bombed without injuring any individuals, and replaced with modern structures that attract rather than repel the average citizen, it would have a salutary and refreshing influence on the American library movement.

I believe the country would be better off if three fourths of them suddenly disappeared, assuming, of course, that they would be replaced by modern buildings. Every public library building over twenty years old needs drastic remodeling. What about the lighting fixtures? What about the service desk? What about the relationship of the workroom to the service desk? What about the large proportion of books hidden on closed shelves? What about the handicaps to substantial, convenient reference work? What about the bothersome flight of front steps which a few people climb to visit the library, while most of the population stay away? What about the aspect of gloom which surrounds the library exterior, especially its entrance? A first-class face lifting of the library buildings of the land is long overdue.

From now on may we avoid the planning and erection of any library buildings which will look at all like those which were being constructed in 1890 or even 1920? Most libraries constructed as late as 1930

look sadly like those designed in 1890.

The library should be the most attractive building in town. Everyone should get an immense pride when he passes it, a pride not alone in the fact that the town has a library but that the library is something that warms our hearts when we walk by, that it has plenty of light and window space, plenty of life and sparkle, that it is approachable and at sidewalk level, that attractive exhibits mark its entrance, when one walks in he can recognize at a glance that the plan was worked out with a view to giving quick and convenient service, that its outside and inside are designed with thoughtful originality, true graciousness, and the beauty that comes from simplicity.

It is common knowledge that our American library buildings are dull, stodgy, and uninspiring.

—A.L.A. Bulletin, March, 1942
"Planning for Postwar Library Building"
J. L. Wheeler

MODERN DESIGN IN LIBRARY BUILDING

By A. Gordon Lorimer
Chief of the Bureau of Architecture,
City of New York

Architects today are tending to depart from the traditional designs in planning public buildings. The emphasis is more and more on the internal arrangement which must be efficient if the proper service is to be rendered. In connection with this it should be said that the main library building of the Enoch Pratt Free Library is an outstanding example of such planning and is worthy of study. I should like also to pay tribute to Wheeler and Githens' **The American Public Library Building** which is one of the best presentations of the architectural design of a special type building.

Any building is a series of compromises in which many elements compete for precedence. (1) The first of these is **control.** This has to do with the easy and efficient flow of traffic within the building, with the design enabling those within the structure to reach the essential parts of the building by the most direct routes and with the least interference to those in other parts of the building. In the Bureau of Architecture in New York we have the belief that it should be as easy for a reader to get a book as it would for the same person to secure provisions in a store. We have evolved two basic designs for use in planning the branch libraries for the New York public library system. These buildings have been designed for a collection of 33,000 books in a population unit of 55,000.

(2) The next of the element is that of **light.** It is obvious that the reading rooms should have an abundance of natural light and the architect can so arrange the placing and the design of the windows as to take full advantage of this need. It is also possible to so utilize architectural features that the strong summer sunlight which comes down largely in a vertical plane may be excluded, whereas the long slanting rays from the winter sun can be admitted for additional warmth and illumination. In some libraries the use of aluminum Venetian blinds has made possible the directing of the light rays so that they will secure a maximum of effect in the interior illumination of the reading rooms.

(3) Another of the basic elements is that of **flexibility.** The shell of the building should be the only fixed part of the structure with the interior arrangement as adaptable as possible. This again is part of the concept of placing the interior needs of a special type structure first. Connected with this is the development of standardized parts for a building, such as windows, flooring, and roof slabs. There is also some effort to develop a standard-sized brick which will be the same for all structures and which will serve as a module. In the past the building industry has been rather slow in developing such standardized units with most struc-

tures being custom made, but there are definite signs of a trend in the opposite direction. This will lead to less expensive buildings and hence ones which can have more facilities for services. It should be added that air-conditioning although relatively expensive may play a large part in the libraries in the future not only for the comfort of the library staff and the readers but also for a reduction of the amount of cleaning which will be necessary. It was found, for example, in one air-conditioned apartment in New York which had been vacant for four months that there was practically no dust when it was reoccupied at the end of that period.

In library planning as in any other architectural work the architect is the skilled instrument for developing a structure that will meet specific needs. He is the means of translating into structural design those elements which the librarian and the board of trustees desire to incorporate in their new building.

From **Between Librarians,** Journal of the Maryland Library Association, March 1945, pp. 8-9.

PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING—PLANNING AIDS

Books and Pamphlets

American Library Association. Committee on Library Architecture and Building Planning. Small public library buildings, by John A. Lowe. A.L.A. 1939. $1.50.

American Library Association. Committee on Post-war Planning. Post-war standards for public libraries. A.L.A. 1943. $1.50.

Power, Effie L. Planning and equipment of children's libraries. **In her** Work with Children in Public Libraries. (A.L.A. 1943. $3.00) p. 130-52.

Wheeler, Joseph Lewis and Githens, Alfred M. The American public library building; its planning and design with special reference to its administration and service. 484 p. New York, Scribner. 1941. Note: Available now only from Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.

Periodical Articles

Collins, W. H. Library building after the war. Library Journal 68:1027-30. December 15, 1943.

Jallade, Louis E. Are you prepared to plan a new building? Library Journal 69:1077-9. December 15, 1944.

Wheeler, J. L. Planning for post-war library building. A.L.A. Bulletin 36:179-191. March 1942.

Note: Back files of **Library Journal** include illustrated articles describing some of the more recent library buildings. These (and articles in other magazine) are indexed in **Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature** and in **Education Index** under the heading, "Library Architecture."

American Library Association
January 2, 1945.

50 OUTSTANDING BOOKS OF 1944

Selected by A.L.A. members from the list of 100 books in the March A.L.A. Bulletin. The order in which the titles are listed does not indicate the number of votes cast for them.

Adams, **The Shape of Books to Come**
Adams, **Album of American History** V. 1 Colonial Period
Adler, **How to Think About War and Peace**
Allen, **Bedford Village**
Becker, **How New Will the Better World Be?**
Benet, **America**
Best, **Young'un**
Bodmer, **The Loom of Language**
Botkin, **A Treasury of American Folklore**
Bowen, **Yankee from Olympus**
Brooks, **The World of Washington Irving**
Brown, **Many a Watchful Night**
Brown, **A Walk in the Sun**
Carrighar, **One Day on Bettle Rock**
Chase, **The Bible and the Common Reader**
Cronin, **The Green Years**
Davenport, **My Country**
Duffus, **The Valley and Its People**
Fast, **Freedom Road**
Fowler, **Good Night, Sweet Prince**
Grew, **Ten Years in Japan**
Hatcher, **The Great Lakes**
Hazard, **Books, Children & Men**
Helmericks, **We Live in Alaska**
Hersey, **A Bell for Adano**
Jaffe, **Men of Science in America**
Johnston, **America Unlimited**
Karski, **Story of a Secret State**
Krutch, **Samuel Johnson**
Landon, **Anna and the King of Siam**
Lippmann, **U. S. War Aims**
McWilliams, **Prejudice, Japanese-Americans**
Myrdal, **An American Dilemma**
Porter, **The Leaning Tower**
Pyle, **Brave Men**
Santayana, **Persons and Places**
Sherrod, **Tarawa, the Story of a Battle**
Shotwell, **The Great Decision**
Shute, **Pastoral**
Smith, **Strange Fruit**
Snow, **People on Our Side**
Stettinius, **Lend-Lease, Weapon for Victory**

Stone, **Immortal Wife**
Stowe, **They Shall Not Sleep**
Straus, **The Seven Myths of Housing**
U. S. National Gallery of Art, **Masterpieces of Painting**
Waller, **The Veteran Comes Back**
Welles, **The Time for Decision**
White, **They Called it "Purple Heart Valley"**
Woodward, **The Way Our People Lived**

MOST WIDELY USED CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF 1939-43

The following children's books are considered by 150 children's and school librarians, representing all parts of the country, to be most widely used in public and school libraries. Only **children's books** published 1939-43 are included, except for two titles from 1944 publications. There has not been enough experience with the books of the last year to know what their use will be.

The books are arranged in the order of the frequency with which they were listed by the participating librarians.

Knight, **Lassie Come-Home**
McSwigan, **Snow Treasure**
O'Brien, **Return of Silver Chief**
Estes, **The Moffats**
Wilder, **These Happy Golden Years**
Travers, **Mary Poppins Opens the Door**
McCloskey, **Homer Price**
Burton, **Little House**
Boylston, **Sue Barton, Superintendent of Nurses**
McCloskey, **Make Way for Ducklings**
Edmonds, **Matchlock Gun**
O'Hara, **My Friend Flicka**
Haywood, **B Is for Betsy**
Sperry, **Call It Courage**
Meader, **Sea Snake**
Enright, **The Saturdays**
Tunis, **All American**
Worth, **They Loved to Laugh**
Gramatky, **Little Toot**
Holling, **Paddle-to-the Sea**
Forbes, **Johnny Tremaine**
Wilder, **Little Town on the Prairie**
Aulaire, **Abraham Lincoln**
Gates, **Blue Willow**
Law, **Fighting Planes of the World**
Jones, **Twig**
Burton, **Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel**
Farley, **Black Stallion**
Felsen, **Strugge Is Our Brother**
Seredy, **Singing Tree**
Estes, **Middle Moffat**
Estes, **Rufus M.**
Pease, **Black Tanker**
Gramatky, **Loopy**
Lawson, **Rabbit Hill**
Waldeck, **White Panther**
Wilder, **Long Winter**
Graham and Lipscomb, **Dr. George Washington Carver**
Leeming, **Fun With Magic**
Lenski, **Little Train**
Lindman, **Flick, Ricka, Dicka and the Three Kittens**
Henderson, **Augustus and the River**
Lattimore, **Peachblossom**
Orton, **Mystery of the Little Red Schoolhouse**
Wheeler & Deucher, **Stephen Foster and His Little Dog Tray**
Watson, **Top Kick**
Austin, **Peter Churchmouse**
Elting & Weaver, **Soldiers, Sailors, Fliers and Marines**
Lovelace, **Betsy-Tacy**

POSTWAR PLANNING

In several communities there is a strong movement for creating a Memorial Building to house a library. In Cambridge a committee of the Cambridge Woman's Club has been joined by business men to work for the housing of the Memorial Library.

The Sioux Rapids Lions Club has begun a campaign for pledges toward the Memorial Library Building. More than $5,000 had been raised in May. This is about one third of the total amount planned for. The planned building will house the library, a public rest room and a large meeting room.

A drive was made in Terril for funds for a new Memorial Library, the last week in May. There is a strong determination on the part of the community that this must bring in the desired amount of money to erect a building that will be a suitable memorial to the sacrifices demanded by the war.

It can not be too strongly urged that all communities planning library buildings get the best available help on the subject. Books and articles that will be helpful are listed on page 27. A few dollars spent in purchasing at least one good book on the subject may save many costly errors in the plans that are adopted.

American Library Association's New Officers

The officers elected to head the work of the American Library Association for 1945-1946:

President, Ralph A. Ulveling, Librarian, Detroit Public Library

1st Vice-president and President-elect, Mary U. Rothrock, Library Specialist, Tennessee Valley Authority

2nd Vice-president, Emerson Greenaway, Librarian, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore

Treasurer, Rudolph Gjelsness, Chairman, Dept. of Library Science, University of Michigan

Executive Board:

Errett Weir McDiarmid, Minneapolis
John S. Richards, Seattle
Jessie Edna Boyd, Oakland, California
Helen M. Clark, Lansing, Michigan
Charles F. Gosnell, Flushing, N. Y.
R. Russell Munn, Akron, Ohio
Anne M. Smith, Vancouver, B. C.
Mary S. Wilkinson, Baltimore
Paul North Rice, New York

NEWBERY AND CALDECOTT AWARDS

The most distinguished contribution to American literature for children in 1944 was decided by children's librarians to be **Rabbit Hill,** by Robert Lawson who received the John Newbery Medal. Anne T. Eaton says: "Robert Lawson, because he knows well and loves the Connecticut country and the little animals of field and wood, has created for the boy and girl, indeed for the sensitive reader of any age, a whole, fresh lively and amusing world."

Prayer for a Child by Elizabeth Orton Jones has been awarded the Caldecott Medal as "the most distinguished American picture book for children" published in 1944.

These awards, given each year by the Children's Section of the American Library Association, were presented at a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, June 9.

The American Library Association Honors Trustees

The American Library Association one June 22 conferred citations on two library trustees in recognition of outstanding public service to their own communities and to their states. They are Mrs. A. W. Errett of Kewanee, Illinois, and M. M. Harris of San Antonio, Texas. Mrs. Errett was a leader in the successful campaign for state legislation enabling communities to raise library tax levies in Illinois. For more than twenty-five years Mr. Harris, editor of the San Antonio **Express** and **Evening News,** has carried on an editorial campaign for more and better public libraries. He was an organizer of the People's Library Movement for Texas, and has been its chief spokesman in the Texas legislature. Both Mr. Harris and Mrs. Errett have been public library trustees for more than twenty-five years.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL

The Children's Book Council, a direct outgrowth of the constantly expanding activities of Children's Book Week, has been established as a permanent year-round center, sponsored by the publishers through the Association of Children's Book Editors. It will serve as a clearing-house for information concerning all activities connected with children's reading. This means that all groups and organizations, as well as libraries, schools and bookstores, will have access to current news of what others in allied fields are doing to promote increased reading and "more books for more children."

It will also be the function of the Children's Book Council to stimulate the inclusion of children's books in any welfare and educational programs of which children's reading should properly play a part.

Book Week, celebrated for over a quarter of a century, this year falls on November 11th to 17th. This annual celebration will climax the Council's activities for the year.

Designed to serve parents, teachers, librarians, community groups, and all those interested in the welfare of children and young people, the Children's Book Council invites your cooperation in this effort to bring more books to more children.

The Children's Book Council,
62 West 45th St., New York 19, N. Y.

PERSONALS

Dorotha Bradford, daughter of Mrs. Ella B. Bradford of Cedar Falls, has left for duty in the army library service in Europe. She was in charge of the post library at Roswell Army Air Field, New Mexico.

Lillian Enlow, librarian at East High School, Waterloo, and Mark Flanders were honored by prizes for their suggestions on the use of newspapers in the school. The pamphlet containing their plans is called **How to use the daily newspaper in the school.**

Dr. Luther H. Evans has been appointed Librarian of Congress to succeed Archibald MacLeish who resigned to become assistant secretary of state. Dr. Evans, a native of Sayersville, Texas, has been acting librarian since Mrs. MacLeish resigned.

The Hideout, by Egon Hostovsky, was translated by **Fern Long,** former secretary of the Ames Social Service League. Miss Long is now specialist in adult education at the Cleveland Public Library. The book she has translated gives a fictional account of the Czech struggle against the Nazis.

Carol Jean Manatt, librarian at the State School at Council Bluffs, was married to Lieut. John D. Wertz at Perry April 7, 1945. They will live in New York.

The Marshalltown Public Library has received two copies of **Island 49,** by **Sergeant Merle Miller,** a former patron of the library. Sgt. Miller is editor-in-chief of the Continental edition of the service publication **Yank.**

John H. Powell, formerly a resident of Ottumwa, has been appointed assistant librarian and director of research of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Mr. Powell has been assistant professor at the University of Delaware.

Elizabeth Anne Utterback and Staff Sergeant Joseph W. Chudacek were married April 25, 1945. Miss Utterback was children's librarian at the Iowa City Public Library.

Dr. T. L. Yuan, president of the Library Association of China and librarian of the National Library of Peiping, spent a day in Ames conferring with Dr. C. H. Brown in regard to the relations between the libraries of China and the United States. It is hoped that the United States will be able to furnish books to help rebuild Chinese libraries, many of which have been destroyed during the war.

NEWS FROM IOWA LIBRARIES

Alta — Grace Clemons, librarian since the founding of the library in 1910, has resigned her position. She is serving until a successor is appointed.

Ames—Two branches are being opened during the summer at Louise Crawford and Welch schools. These stations will be cared for by members of the P.T.A. groups and will be open to children up through the 9th grade. They will be open three days a week and will be under the supervision of Mrs. C. H. Veenker, children's librarian. This is an experiment to make library service available to children who live too far from the main library to get their books easily, since gas rationing.

Brooklyn—The library has moved from its quarters in the town hall to new quarters which have been prepared for it. Another day has been added to the weekly schedule making it open three days a week in the future.

Burlington — The income from a trust established by the late Horace Rand is to be used by the library to buy books on flowers and gardens and similar subjects.

Des Moines—State Traveling Li-

brary—Dilla Boyd has joined the staff. Formerly a member of the Marshalltown Public Library staff, she has served at the Weld County Library in Greeley, Colorado. She received her library training at Denver Library School.

Eldora—Ada Meeks has been appointed assistant librarian, succeeding Mrs. Elvin Adams who has served for two years.

Fairfield—As a memorial to Bobbie McCoid, small son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McCoid of Mount Pleasant, books for children have been placed by friends in the library. Each book has the same personal book plate which is used in his memorial books in the Mount Pleasant Library. The plate contains the smiling picture of Bobbie, a robin among the trees and the inscription "In happy memory". Mrs. McCoid is the former Roberta Louden of Fairfield and she and her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Louden have been closely identified in their interests with the Fairfield Public Library.

Greene—Mrs. M. Delphia Wilder, who has served as librarian for the past 25 years, has resigned because of ill health. Her resignation was effective July 1. The library has been the recipient of several generous gifts from residents and friends.

Harlan—After serving almost 25 years as librarian, Mrs. Minnie Brazie retired May 1. Mrs. Valborg Lux, who has been her assistant for four years, was appointed librarian. Mrs. Brazie will live in Harlan but hopes to spend next winter in Arizona with her son, Dr. Walter Brazie.

Hornick — In commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Library Association, the members held open house at the library June 9. Mrs. Dwight Skinner agitated for the organization of the association which consisted of 18 members at first. The club members feel justly proud of having provided library service for the community for half a century.

Hudson—The town council recently passed an ordinance establishing a free public library.

Jewell—The town of Jewell was remembered in the will of the late E. W. Montgomery who left an estate of $25,000 to be used for the establishment of the E. W. Montgomery Memorial Library. The bequest includes two farms and the home in Jewell, which is to be converted into a library.

Keosauqua—The library has received $1,000 from the estate of the late Will S. Manning. Mr. Manning, youngest son of the founder of Keosauqua, has retained his interest in his home town during his years of residence in New Orleans.

Knoxville—Mrs. J. B. Bunker who has been librarian for twenty-two years, resigned recently. She and her family have moved to Billings, Montana.

Lamoni — Graceland College — Marilyn Sorden of Salt Lake City, Utah, will be college librarian next year. She is at the University of Denver this summer.

La Porte City — The city council has passed an ordinance for a new library which is sponsored by the Lion's Club. The library board has been appointed and a room in the town hall partitioned off for the library. The Lion's Club has pledged $1000 toward expense of the library. Mrs. Frances Nies is librarian.

Lisbon — A Howard F. Kohl Memorial Fund has been established in honor of Lt. Howard F. Kohl who was killed in action in Holland October 11, 1944. Contributions to the fund are being received by the Board of Trustees and will be used to provide furnishings, equipment and books.

Muscatine — June Knippenberg who has been children's librarian for the past two years, left June 1 to accept a position in Minneapolis.

New London — The H. J. Nugen Public Library now has a music collection. Vocal and piano music is available for loans. More will be added if the demand increases. This

is an innovation that should be acceptable to the community.

Oskaloosa—Betty Poe Stockhill is back on the staff while her husband is serving overseas.

Perry—After 41 years of service, Flora Bailey has resigned her position as librarian. Jeanne Gasser, assistant librarian, is caring for the library until a permanent appointment can be made. Miss Bailey intends to remain in Perry for the present.

Shenandoah—Eva Lea Kimsey of Farragut is serving as children's librarian for ten weeks while Blanche Alden takes a needed rest. Miss Kimsey has assisted at the library story hour during previous summers.

Mrs. Frank Anshutz donated $50 to the library to observe the founding of the Anshutz store in 1883. The money was used to purchase books for the vacation peroid.

Washta—At a special meeting of the town council, it was voted to make the library a public library, supported by tax.

Webster City—At a recent meeting of the Library Trustees, it was decided to invest $1,000 to establish a film division department of the libray. The films will be educational and semi-educational topics and will be available on loan, together with projector and operator. They will be loaned to clubs, schools and societies. It was also decided to spend $1,000 for non fiction books to be added to the libraries of Hamilton County's rural schools.

The doll collection which formerly belonged to Mrs. Arch Foster and which was presented to the library is now on display in the basement.

CHANGES ON LIBRARY BOARDS

Decorah — Robert Olson succeeds Dr. H. T. Opsahl, who is in the army.

Hartley—Mrs. Sarah Curtis succeeds Mrs. Frank McCauley.

Hudson—Virginia Currell succeeds Kent Pellett.

Indianola — James Kennedy has been appointed to succeed Mayor Perry on the library board.

La Porte City—The Council has established a new library, with the following board: Mrs. E. E. Pearson, president, Mrs. Herbert Johannsen, Everett Smith, Mrs. George Martin, and Richard Mahood.

Lohrville—The newly appointed library board for the library which is now tax supported is as follows: Ross Picht, president, Mrs. Keith McKinley, secretary, Mrs. Mark Powers, Mrs. Jack Buffham, Mrs. Albert Seeck, Mrs. Ida Ruston, O. A. Runquist.

McGregor—Mrs. Kenneth Sparks has been named as a new member of the board.

Missouri Valley—H. E. Wheelock succeeds the late Dr. R. D. McEvoy.

Newton—Mrs. Laota Tiedje has resigned from the board.

Sheldon—R. L. Starrett, who has served on the library board, resigned.

Shenandoah — Mrs. Ivan Wilson replaces Rev. L. A. Hudson who moved to California.

Williamsburg—Mrs. H. Claypool is a new member of the library board.

NECROLOGY

The Oskaloosa Library Board and entire community are saddened by the death of **Frank T. Nash** who had served on the library board since 1903. He was always helpful and understanding. No one has been oppointed to fill his place.

Mrs. W. P. Nichols, a valued member of the Ames Library Board died July 6 after a long illness.

Benjamin Pullen, Jr., president of the Clarinda Public Library board, passed away in May as a result of a blasting accident near Essex, Iowa.

Mrs. Mathilda Palmer Scheeler, known as the "mother" of the Marshalltown Public Library Board and its first librarian when the one-room library was open two afternoons a week, died at her home June 22. She was 87 years old.